

IN THE CLAIMS

Status of claims

Claims 1-41 have been cancelled.

42. (Previously Presented) A method of micro extraction, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a first container having a sample solution comprising a dissolved analyte therein;

providing a second container with a membrane wall having fiber pores permeable by the analyte dissolved in said sample solution;

filling the second container with an acceptor solution;

lowering the second container into the first container with the sample solution therein;

stirring the sample solution until equilibrium is established between analyte in said sample solution and analyte in said acceptor solution by passing of analyte through said membrane wall; and

removing analyte enriched acceptor solution from said second container.

43. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 42 further comprising the step of impregnating said fiber pores with a liquid before lowering said second container into said first container.

44. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 42 wherein the step of lowering a second container into said first container comprises lowering a tubular microporous fiber into said first container.

45. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 44 wherein the step of lowering a tubular fiber comprises lowering a closed end fiber into said first container.

46. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 44 wherein the step of lowering a tubular fiber comprises lowering a center portion of a tubular fiber having two open ends into said first container.

47. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 44 wherein the step of filling an acceptor solution into the second container comprises the step of filling the second container with an acceptor solution having a pH for ionizing the analyte to prevent ionized analyte from passing from said acceptor solution through the membrane wall and into the sample solution.

Claims 48-61 cancelled.